

Is it the position of the minority that the selection of judges at the trial court level, that is, at the proposed superior court level, be as at present?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Johnson.

DELEGATE JOHNSON: Essentially, yes.

DELEGATE BRADSHAW: Let me ask you this: does not the present system tend to favor the existing political establishment?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Johnson.

DELEGATE JOHNSON: In my opinion, no.

DELEGATE BRADSHAW: What provision has the minority taken to improve the situation of the minority? I particularly make reference to the Baltimore City situation.

DELEGATE JOHNSON: We think our proposal best protects the minorities, any minority, by precluding nominating commissions. In our view a small nominating commission can either be weighted for or weighted against minorities. I am appalled at the idea that nominating commissions may either be stacked because of pressures by minorities either for or against minorities. I prefer to see it open, I prefer to see the governor take into consideration every possible nominee and pick the best man for the position. We think our position protects all minorities as well as all the citizens in the state.

THE CHAIRMAN: Are there any further questions? If not, I request Delegate Johnson to return to his seat. The Clerk will sound the quorum bell, please.

DELEGATE SHERBOW: May I suggest to the Chairman that at ten minutes after five on Friday afternoon of a very long week that perhaps we would be better able and more refreshed on Monday to take up the rather grave and important matter rather than make the motion that we rise. Perhaps if we follow the usual protocol, we would be accomplishing a great deal more than if we were to sit for the next fifty minutes.

THE CHAIRMAN: The Chair would like to talk to Delegate Powers at the rostrum, please.

The Chair in a few minutes will recognize Delegate Powers for the purpose of moving that the Committee of the Whole rise. Let me say to you, however, that we have a great many amendments to consider

in connection with this article. It is, as has been pointed out, a very important article. It has been presented to you at great length in very able committee reports and in very able and detailed thorough reports by minority spokesmen. There have been numerous questions. The majority recommendation is supported by a very detailed and factual memorandum and each minority report is similarly supported by such a memorandum.

The Chair agrees with the suggestion of Delegate Sherbow that we can make greater progress by adjourning now and considering this subject afresh on Monday afternoon provided that each delegate in the meantime over the weekend will undertake to review the memoranda to be sure that he has prepared in advance any amendment he desires to offer.

If the Chair may be permitted to say so, provided that in the course of debate we avoid needless repetition, there will be no desire to limit the number of speakers. The Committee on Calendar and Agenda notwithstanding, the report of the Committee on Rules will not impose restrictions on the number of speeches to be made by each delegate, unless the conduct of the debate on Monday makes this necessary.

May I therefore urge each delegate to think ahead as to what he may want to say and so organize his thoughts so that he can say what he needs to say in one speech on each point and say it very briefly.

But above all, have your amendments prepared in advance.

The Chair says that notwithstanding the fact that he also is going to request the delegates to spend a good bit of time this weekend in reading the very extensive committee recommendations and minority reports which have been filed in the past few days, and which are going to be filed this afternoon, we gave consideration to the possibility of suggesting to the Convention that it meet tomorrow, notwithstanding the previous understanding that we would not meet on Saturday. We decided not to do so because of the tremendous quantity of material that is to be read by each delegate.

We still have before us the task of completing our work by December 12th. It can be done if we will all continue to work as we have been working these past few weeks and to limit debate to pertinent debate, full debate, but not unnecessarily repetitive debate.